SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

CENTRAL PROVINCES, CENTRAL INDIA, AND RÁJPÚTÁNA,

Received up to 29th May, 1889.

POLITICAL.

The Oudh Akhbár (Lucknow), of the 23rd May, publishes

an article communicated by Nawab Muhammad Umar Ali Khan of Basoda, who, referring to the desire of the Russian Government to invade this

Proposals made by Nawab Muhammad Umar Ali Khan of Basoda to prevent Russia from invading India.

country sooner or later, makes the following proposals for the consideration of the British Government: -First, the British Government should strengthen its friendship with the Porte, which is an inveterate enemy of Russia. In that case, when the Russian Government invades India, it will have to keep three or four lakhs of troops on the Russo-Turkish frontier, with a view to prevent the Turkish troops from entering Rus-Secondly, the British Government should sian territory. occupy Seistan, Yagistan and other such places, and establish a British cantonment there, so that British influence may be increased in Persia and the Shah may not be induced to side with the Russian Government. Thirdly, Herat should be occupied, a strong British force located there, and railway extended up to that place. If the Amír of Kabul be likely to be displeased with the occupation of Herat, he may be granted some territory on the north-west frontier in

Circulation, 550 copies.

return. The presence of British troops at Herat would also tend to keep Persia in check. Fourthly, the British Government should redress all the just grievances of the people. Obviously, the contentment of the people is necessary for the preservation of peace in the country. Fifthly, the increase of the army and navy, and the extension of railways are advisable; and the writer is glad to notice that the Government has already directed its attention to those matters. All classes of natives should remember that their interests are identical with those of the British Government. They have everything to lose and nothing to gain by a change of masters. With reference to the offers of aid made by the Nizam and other princes, the Government has advised them to maintain a portion of their forces in a state of efficiency. This is as it should be. The people in British India should establish an Anti-Russian Association in every district, whose members should make speeches in condemnation of Russian rule and raise money from public subscription, which should be devoted to the protection of the country against a Russian invasion. Moreover, they should apply to the Government to be enlisted as volunteers, and should endeavour to obtain information about the Russians. The writer was to leave Bombay on the 18th May for Europe, and intends to pay a visit to Russia for the purpose of collecting information.

Circulation, 415 copies. The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 26th May, observes
that the supporters of Home Rule for
Prince of Wales sympathy Ireland will be glad to learn that His
with Home Rule.

Royal Highness the Prince of Wales
is of opinion that the demand is based on a sound principle and
should be complied with. Hence His Royal Highness appears
to be a very liberal-minded prince, and it may be assumed
that he shares the views of Mr. Gladstone and other British
statesmen in respect of the grant of self-government to this
country too.

Strentalion, 120 copies. The Aligark Institute Gazette, of the 25th May, does not calculated of the understand why no public rejoicings Quant Breakly in India are held in every district in honour of the Queen's Birthday. Sardar Muhammad Haiyat Khan,

C.S.I., Divisional Judge, Ferozpur, was to give a dinner to his European and native friends on the 24th idem, 80 invitation eards having been issued. He deserves praise for the dinner. Some simple method should be devised of observing the day at every place in a suitable manner. It would be well if a darbar were held at the headquarters of every district by the Magistrate, and, where there is a Commissioner, by the Commissioner; and if the police force were paraded in review order. Moreover, there should be a dinner in the evening from public subscription, both European and native gentlemen, who join the dinner, contributing, say, Rs. 16 each. Some gentleman or other in every district is sure to offer to pay the whole cost of the dinner; but he should not be allowed to do so, otherwise it will lose its public character. It is to be hoped that the Aligarh Institute Club will make arrangements for the dinner at Aligarh from next year.

The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 26th May, referring to the proposal made by a Bombay National Congress at Lon-correspondent of the Indian Mirror, don in 1890.

National Congress should assemble at London, highly approves of the proposal, on the ground that it would give the people in England an opportunity for gaining a full insight into the just and reasonable requests of the Congress, and would remove all doubts which may have been created in their minds by the misrepresentations of the opponents of the movement. The number of delegates at the London Congress should not exceed 200.

NATIVE STATES.

Alleged dismissal of Afghan council of Regency in Rampur, acting on the advice of the all-powerful Vice-President, has been greatly oppressing the people. Many poor Afghans who were in the service of the State from the time of Nawab Kalab Ali Khan as sentries and watchmen, have been unjustly dismissed, and outsiders, who are generally inhabitants of the hills have been appointed in their place. As

Circulation, 415 copies:

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they have been suddenly thrown out of employ, they and their families have been reduced to starvation. They are often to be found crying at the tombs of Nawab Kalab Ali Khan and Nawab Mushtaq Ali Khan. The Local Government should interfere on their behalf and bring pressure to bear upon the Council to reinstate them in their posts.

Circulation, 800 copies. The Hindustáni (Lucknow), of the 26th May, approves of the appointment of a Musalmán as a Madaission of a Muhammadan to the Council of Member of the Council of Regency in Kashmír.

Kashmír, and observes that it would be a good thing if the Council granted religious liberty to the Muhammadan population of the State.

Circulation, 825 copies.

The Riyazu-l-Akhbar (Gorakhpur), of the 24th May, says that some persons are of opinion that Kashmir affairs. Government should have annexed Kashmir. But they should remember that the annexation of Kashmir would have created suspicions in the minds of Native Chiefs. The policy adopted by Government is the best one. Government could possibly have only the two following objects in occupying Kashmir, viz., to fortify the frontier and to put a stop to the misrule prevailing in the State. Both these objects will be gained by the establishment of the Council of Regency, which is sure to accede readily to the wishes of Government in regard to the fortification of the frontier and the improvement of administration. The appointment of a Muhammadan gentleman to a seat in the Council ought to satisfy the Muhammadan community in the State.

Circulation, 100 copies. The Rahbar (Moradabad), of the 28rd May, says that it appears from another newspaper that the Maharaja of Kashmir is not satisfied with the new arrangement made in that State, as has been alleged by some persons. On the contrary, he is so much displement that he has refused even to see any Members of the Council of Regency. Only his brother, Raja Ram Singh, has access to him. His Highness is reported to have sent a letter to the Vicercy, to the effect that the rumour as to the combilishment of the Council at his own instance is unfounded,

and that if Government has entirely approved of the proceedings of the Resident, His Highness may be allowed to live at some place outside his State. There is no doubt that the proceedings of the Resident are opposed to the treaty stipulations existing between Government and Native Princes, The establishment of the Council would have been justifiable only in case the Mahárája should have become insane or otherwise unfit to conduct the administration, or have shown any sign of disloyalty. Government had better reconsider the subject and do justice to him. In conclusion, the Rahbar advises His Highness not to leave Kashmír, telling him that his departure from his State may prove as inauspicious as that of the late King Wajid Ali Sháh from Lucknow.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

The Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the 22nd May, gives the substance of the Secretary of State's The Indian Factories Act. despatch of May, 1888, regarding the regulation of labour in Indian cotton mills, and of the Government of India's reply to it; and regrets to observe that, although the Government of India has clearly shown that there is no need for extending the provisions of the English Factory Act to the cotton mills in this country, Lord Cross and Sir John Gorst are still inclined to comply with the wishes of the Lancashire millowners. They are of opinion that the labourers in Indian factories should receive four days' holiday in the month; that women should not be allowed to work more than 11 hours a day; and that no child below nine years of age should be employed in a factory. Whenever the interests of England and India are found to clash, the Secretary of State and the House of Commons always espouse the cause of England. At the time of the establishment of the India Council, the House of Commons declared on oath that the House and the Council would carefully watch and protect the interests of this country. But they are about to adopt for the benefit of the Lancashire cotton-lords a measure which will deprive the Indian millowners of one seventh of their profits. The British Government has not yet abolished the import duty levied

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on Indian silver plate. Is the British Government now guided in its policy by an inordinate love of money and not by justice? It is to be hoped that the House of Commons will not injure the Indian cotton industry by ordering the Indian millowners to give their labourers four additional holidays every month over and above the holidays already allowed to them. There is little hope that justice will be done to this country until the elective principle is extended to the Indian Legislative Councils and the British public lends a ear to the complaints of natives.

Circulation, 370 copies.

Comments on the sympathy of some natives and the Bombay Gazette with Mr. Crawford.

The Mihr-i-Nimroz (Bijnor), of the 21st May, expresses surprise and regret at the rumour that some natives desire to raise a lakh of rupees from public subscription for the support of Mr. Crawford, and severely

censures them. Adverting to the recommendation of the Bombay Gazette for the grant of a pension to Mrs. Crawford, the Mikr-i-Nimroz condemns the proposal, on the ground that it would tend to encourage the spread of bribery and corruption among Government officials, and takes the Bombay Gazette to task for making such a recommendation.

The Azád (Lucknow), of the 24th May, does not understand why the Local Government is Increase of powers of opposed to increasing the powers of Honorary Magistrates. Honorary Magistrates who sit singly. The Azad is of opinion that the Government should increase the powers of such Magistrates in the interior of districts, where Benches of Magistrates cannot possibly be established, on the recommendation of District Magistrates, for the convenience of the people. Moreover, at the time of appointing any man an Honorary Magistrate, the Government should satisfy itself that he is qualified for the post.

The same paper refers to a case of theft in Patna in which five men were killed by a gang of frequent occurrence of thieves, and regrets to say that owing to the light punishment inflicted on thieves and robbers; theft has come to be carried on as a regular profession by persons of bad character under British rule. Cases of theft were not so

Circulation, 340 copies. frequent under native rule, and in Native States even at the present day the number of such cases is comparatively very small.

The Akhbar-i-Chunar, of the 21st May, complains that

Alleged prevalence of

distress among the people in a portion of the Mirza-

pur district, on account of the scarcity of grain.

great distress prevails among the people in that part of the Mirzapur district which is situated on the other side of

the Son, on account of the scarcity of

grain. They are reported to subsist on the leaves of trees, and thousands of men have abandoned their homes and migrated to other places. It is high time that relief works should be started to provide labour for the famine-stricken people. Last year the editor was told by a local official that Government intended to construct dams this year at certain places on the Dudhi road where there is a scarcity of water. It is believed that Mr. Dale, the late Collector, sent a report to Government urging the construction of the dams: the present is a very opportune time to take the work in hand.

The Almora Akhbár, of the 20th May, praises J. R. Reid, Esq., c.s., the Commissioner of Ku-J. R. Reid, Esq., c.s., the Commissioner of Kumaun. maun, for his justice, ability, experience, industry and other good qualities, and observes that he has cleared the heavy arrears of work left by his predecessor, Mr. Ross; placed the affairs of the Tehri State on a satisfactory footing; mitigated the undue severity of the forest rules, which caused great hardship to the people in Gazhwal; and discouraged the practice of inflicting heavy fines for breaches of sanitary rules in Kumaun. The inhabitants of Kumaun were justly congratulated by the native newspapers on his appointment to the Commissionership of that Division. They are very unfortunate that he has fallen sick and will probably have to go to England on leave. His sickness'is due to the fatigues, privations and the inclemencies of the weather to which he was exposed while marching through the Garhwal district with a view to making preliminary inquiries in connection with the approaching revision of settlement. The Almora Akhbar prays for his speedy recovery, and hopes that Government will appoint. Mr. F. Giles, who has gained some knowledge of the people and the country, his locum tenens.

Circulation, 140 copies

Circulation, 76 copies.

Girculation, 415 copies. A correspondent of the Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the

28th May, complains that the Municipal administration at Brindaban is
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in a very unsatisfactory state. The

Municipal Commissioners, a majority of whom have received
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little or no education, do not perform their duties properly, Some of them have formed themselves into a secret party. assist each other at the time of election and bring pressure to bear upon the voters to re-elect them. If a man applies for permission to make any alteration to his house, he receives permission several months after the submission of the application. The Superintendent of the Municipal office is a Native Christian and two-thirds of the subordinate officials in the service of the Municipal Board are Musalmans. People are unnecessarily detained for hours at the octroi outposts for the payment of the octroi duty, and the sweepers do not properly clean the streets and lanes. Six Municipal Commissioners also exercise the powers of a Magistrate of the third class. Three of them possess some knowledge of the law, but the other three are quite ignorant. There is great delay in the decision of cases by them, and their decisions are generally very curious.

Circulation, 415 copies.

The Hindustan (Kalakankar), of the 23rd May, refers to an article contributed by Diwan Objectionable kinds of marriages among Hindus. Raghunath Rao to some native newspapers, drawing attention to the hardships of girls who, at the age of seven or eight years, are given by their fathers in marriage to grown-up men more than forty-five years old, on receipt of some money from the bridegrooms, and to the inability of Magistrates and Judges to render any protection to such girls under the law. The Hindustan then observes that as Government is unwilling to interfere in religious and social matters, the people themselves should take steps with a view to discourage such objectionable marriages. The social conference, which the National Congress delegates hold every year after the Congress is over, should take up the subject at its next meeting. The Hindustan, of the 25th May, refers to the case in which Hindn agreed to pay a certain sum of money to another,

on condition of the latter giving his sister in marriage to the former's nephew, and to the rejection of the agreement as invalid by the Panjáb Chief Court. The Hindustán approves of the decision of the Chief Court, and observes that cases in which Hindus perform the marriages of their daughters with other Hindus on receipt of money from the bridegrooms, frequently occur. But such marriages are looked down upon with contempt by Hindu society, and are also condemned by the Hindu religion. The Hindustán hopes that the judgment of the Chief Court in the case above referred to will tend to discourage such marriages in future.

The Agra Punch, of the 20th May, complains that when

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Sometimes one official has to do the work of three officials, and the result is that the people whose cases are pending before him have to attend his court every day in vain, and that he decides suits in a most perfunctory manner.

The Júm-i-Jamshed (Moradabad), of the 12th May, received on the 26th idem, expresses great ciating District Magistrate, satisfaction at the appointment of

Mr. J. S. Meston, Joint-Magistrate, Moradabad, as the Officiating District Magistrate; praises him for his ability, knowledge of Persian and Arabic, justice and sympathy with the people, and prays that he may rise to the Lieutenant-Governorship of these provinces in due course of time.

The Nazm Akhbár (Lucknow), of the 20th May, publishes

Hostile comments on an article in Urdu verse, in which the
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Circulation, 150 copies.

Circulation, 300 copies.

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Circulation, 150 copies.

J. S. Meston, Esq., Officiating District Magistrate, satis Moradabad. Mr.

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Circulation, 240 copies. the holding of the religious fair called Satrakh, in opposition to the policy of religious tolerance pursued by the British Government.

The same paper states that it has more than once drawn Copying Department attention to the popular complaint attached to law courts: that the men who apply for copies of any papers to the Copying Department have to pay more copying fee than they are liable to pay under the rules prescribed by Government, inasmuch as the copyists supply a copy on more than the proper number of folios. A strict control should be exercised over the Department.

Circulation, 250 copies.

The Surma-i-Rozgár (Agra), of the 24th May, complains Alleged misbehaviour of that it is believed that Wazir Khan, a head-constable at Hariparbat, Agra. head-constable at the Hariparbat policestation, is in league with persons of bad character. Last year he and Tufail Hasan, who was in charge of that policestation, were prosecuted for having received bribes and for other offences. Tufail Hasan was convicted and sentenced to three years' imprisonment, but Wazir Khan was acquitted. The District Superintendent of Police should make an inquiry into Wazir Khan's misbehaviour, and transfer him from Hariparbat.

EDUCATION.

Circulation, 100 copies.

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and the state of the

The Rahbar (Moradabad), of the 23rd May, is glad to

Transfer of the headmaster and the second
master of the Moradabad
the Najmu-l-Hind, regarding the mismanagement of the Moradabad High
School, have been taken into consideration by the Director of
Public Instruction, who has been pleased to transfer both the
headmaster and the second master of the school to other places.

POST-OFFICE.

The Natir-i-Hind (Agra), of the 8th May, received on the Delivery peons and the 28th idem, complains that, at Agra, city Post-office, Agra. postal peons are frequently transferred from one circle to another, and that consequently they have great difficulty in identifying the addressees, and sometimes misdeliver letters and money-orders. The Natir is of opinion

that no postal peon should be transferred unless he misbehaves himself or the people are found to be dissatisfied with him. The Deputy Postmaster of the City Post-office, who should be at his table from 6 in the morning to 6 in the evening, is frequently absent from the Post-office, and refuses to receive more than twenty value-payable packets a day.

A correspondent of the Rahbar (Moradabad), of the 23rd May, complains that there is generally Affleged delay in the delivery of letters by vilgreat delay in the delivery of letters in lage postmen. villages situated in the interior of districts. The letters sent by him to Bhadarsa in the Fyzabad district, Makhdumpur in the Sultanpur district, and Saidpur in the Bara Banki district, were received by the addressees ten days after the dates of posting. He sent a money-order on the 12th April, but the payee at Saidpur in the Bara Banki district received the money so late as the 19th idem. No letter should take more than four days in reaching its destination. The Postmaster-General should insist on the village postmen delivering letters with greater promptitude.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The Hindustán (Kálákankar), of the 28th May, in comAgricultural Institute, menting upon the report of the Baraon
Baraon, Allahabad. Agricultural Institute for the Fasli
year 1295, briefly refers to the measures adopted in the course
of the year by the Institute to improve agriculture, but considers the report meagre. The Hindustán thanks the members
of the Institute, particularly Mr. F. W. Porter, C. S., the
Chairman, and Babu Mahabir Prasad Narayan Singh, for
the good work which the Institute is doing, and observes that
such agricultural associations are very beneficial to the
country.

The Nydya Sudhá (Harda), of the 22nd May, learning
Rája Seth Gokal Das, from the Shubh Chintak newspaper
of Jabalpur. that Rája Seth Gokal Das, of Jabalpur, has resolved to spend Rs. 1,00,000 in charity, tells
the Rája that the giving of alms to strong and able-bodied men
demoralizes them, and suggests that he should devote the

Circulation, 100 copies.

Circulation,

Circulation,

money to the establishment of an iron foundry, which would revive an old industry of the district and provide labour for the poor.

Circulation, 164 copies.

 Proposed filling up of the Husainabad tank with earth; and observes that if the tank was likely to affect the sound of the bell in the clock-tower, the clock-tower should not have been built near it. The editor is of opinion that the sound of the bell does not reach to a distance because it is built on low land. At Amritsar there is a clock-tower very near a tank, but the tank does not affect the sound of the bell.

Circulation, 150 copies. The Bhárat Bandhu (Aligarh), of the 24th May, complains
The Achal tank at Alithat a woman was lately drowned in
the Achal tank at Aligarh, and another
was rescued by a man when about to go down for the last
time. In order to prevent such fatal accidents in future the
tank should not be allowed to contain more than knee-deep
water. The Municipal Board and the Magistrate should see to
this.

The same paper condemns the native custom of adorning children with precious ornaments, on waring of ornaments the ground that such children are killed by thieves and robbers for the sake of their jewellery. The writer advises his countrymen to give their children education, which he considers the best ornament for them. He censures women, too, for wearing heavy ornaments, which injure their noses and ears and give them an awkward gait in walking.

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Birdoli-i-Aimon	Agra	bugar		Krishan Sarap	16th		388	
4	", Rámpur	i :		Muhammad Husain,	27th		48	-

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS EXAMINED.

	Louiner. Lineties.	MOSTELE, OR OTHER WISE	Francos prosesses	Dárs os Pares.	Вля от вроите	Ora construição.
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Note	 28th,	1111	ofth &		29th,	28th, 28th,	th &		-
Nosimai-Agra Agra	28th 24th 29th 27th &	23rd 26th 24th	23rd, 2 28th.	28th	24th & 77th	स्र	6th 4th. 28	9th. 6th	3th
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National Part Agra Agra Agra National District	24th, y 1st, 3th &		28th,		27th,	23rd, 24th,	28th, 5th & 22nd.	th &	
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Nasim-i-Agra Agra Nasim-i-Riad Fatchpur Nasim-i-Riad Agra Nateri-i-Riad Agra Nitému-l-Rust Nordia Akbósr Lucknow Nateri-i-Rust Nordia Akbósr Lucknow Oudh Punch Oudh Punch Sambosr Rafin-l-Akbósr Cawnpore Marda Binglish Oudh Punch Bafin-l-Akbósr Rafin-l-Akbósr Rossas-l-Akbósr Rossas-l-Akbó	ás Bis ráyan ad Alí	Pressid dín semíd s Bhas	pgg	usain	Spoken Husein ishun	i mad	Alí		
Nasim-i-Agra Agra Mara Batchpur "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" "" ""	mná D iva Ná hamm	nárké] hímu-l du-l-H	33,000	Н руј	ulám l táb K	rád Al		shí Dh shínan	rayági. t Huss
Nasim:-Agra Agra Batehpur """ """ """ """ """ """ """ """ """ "			She				Teg Teg		244
Nasem-i-Agra Agra		onthly tly		I.y					A
Nasim-i-Agra Agra Fatehpur Fatehpur Fatehpur Fatehpur B. Nasim-i-Hind Agra	888		Daily	Week		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	"Daily	Week	
Nasim-i-Agra Agra Nasim-i-Hind Agra Nasim-i-Hind Agra Nitation-i-Hind Agra Nitation-i-Hind Nitation-i-Hind Nitation-i-Hind Nitation-i-Hind Nitation-i-Hind Nitation Noradabad Noradabad Raibar Raib		t this		•		lindi	•	t h :-	
Nasim-i-Agra Agra Nasim-i-Hind Agra Nasim-i-Hind Agra Nitamu-i-Hind Agra Nitamu-i-Hind Moradabad Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Nitamu-i-Annia Raina Raina-i-Achbar Raina Raina Raina Raina Raina Raina Raina Raina Raina Rozama Rozama Lucknow Lucknow Subodh Sindhu Khandwa Agra		2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Jedu		Findi Jrdu	Jrdu-B	2 \$	indi a r a	Hindi rdu
ST Nasim-i-Agra Statem-i-Hind Nasm Abbbár Nitámu-l-Hind Nitámu-l-Hind Nitámu-l-Hind Nitámu-l-Hind Nitámu-l-Hind Nitámu-l-Hind Statem-l-Abbár Bafru-l-Abbár Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Bagyutána Garette Sabbar Rahbar Bagu-l-Abbár Bagyutána Garette Sabodh Sindhu Sabodh Sindhu Sabodh Sindhu Sabodh Sindhu				i		1 1 1	: :		- b
ST Nasim-i-Agra Statem-i-Eind Nasma-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Nitámu-l-Eind Sadah Oudh Punch Prayág Samáchár Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Rahbar Barn Prakásh Rahbar Sabodh Sindhu Sayjam Kistri Suahákar Sabodh Sindhu Subodh Sindhu Subodh Sindhu	ra tehpur ra	cknow radaba wnpore	cknow		shabad nares radaba	nere dám rakhpu	radaba	fipur endwa	ದೆ
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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

Received up to 5th June, 1889.

CONTENTS.

POLITICAL.

	•					Page.
Comments on the dement is the best G					Govern-	341
National Congress M at Bankipur, Beha		by Pand	lit Madan Mo	han Malwi	ya, B.A.,	342
Interview between M Congress	Ir. Gladstor	e and M	Ir. Digby reg	garding the	National	343
Egypt, England and	Turkey	•••	•••	•••	•••	343
	NAT	rive s	TATES.			
Preservation of kine	in Jodhpur			•••	•••	343
	GENERAL	L ADM	INISTRAT	ION.		
Duty levied by the I	British Gove	rnment	on Indian s	ilver plate	•••	343
Ditto Proposed amendmen	ditto ts to the In	dian Fa	ctories Act	•••		344 344
Ditto	ditto	•••	•••	•••	•••	345
The Leprosy Bill	•••	•••	•••		•••	345
Advantages of Britis	sh rule		•••	•••		345
Appointment of I Judge of Sitapur Ditto	Mirza Muh	ammad	Abbas as	Officiating	District	345 346
Appointment of Mr. High Court	Amír Ali a	s an O	fficiating Jud	ge of the	Calcutta	846
Some Government of for misbehaviour	ficial at Ka	nauj, Fa	rukhabad, re	buked or	dismissed	346

					. 11	Page.
Freatment of nativ	res by Gover	rnment	409	ert	***	346
Alleged heavy tax	ation	•••	•••	•••	***	347
Alleged illegal pro	ceedings of	Honorary M	[agistrates	and the Inc	ome-tax	
Department				•••	•••	348
Alleged misconduc	et of police o	officials	•••	•••	•••	349
An attempt at dak	miti in Luck	now	•••	•••	11	350
Ditto	ditte	1.3	***	•••	•••	351
Ditto	ditto	•••	•••	•••	•••	351
Reply of the Loca nares regarding			emerial of t	he residents	of Be-	351
Protest of the inh	abitants of		gainst the	establishme	at of a	
penal police for	ce ruete	•••	•••	•••	•••	352
Haburas.	•••			•••	•••	352
	*	BAILW	AY,			
Cawnpore-Achner	a State Rail	Way				353

. . . .

1918

10.00 to

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William Committee to the second of the secon

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